

Maine Small Business  
Technical Assistance Program  
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Maine Department of  
Environmental Protection  
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[www.state.me.us/dep](http://www.state.me.us/dep)

**Smart Business Practices**  
**Boat Building & Repair**  
***Management of Hazardous Waste-***  
***Small Quantity Generator***

**Applicability:** What is a hazardous waste? Generators of hazardous waste are required to identify their wastes and to determine if they are hazardous. Waste may be determined to be hazardous because it exhibits a hazardous characteristic (there are four: ignitability, corrosivity, reactivity, or Toxic Characteristic Leaching Procedure TCLP), or because it is a listed waste.

**Benefits:** Many businesses generate small quantities of hazardous waste as unwanted result from their activities. By knowing and following Maine's rules for hazardous waste management, and incorporating pollution prevention strategies, hazardous waste can be a minimal cost, as well as safely and properly handled. Whenever possible, process changes in your business provide an opportunity for greater efficiency and minimizing generation of hazardous waste or other wastes. At the same time, your business can handle wastes safely and properly. As we know, compliance with hazardous waste regulations is enforceable under the law. Noncompliance can result in financial penalties as well as negative attention. Reduce your waste costs and minimize human and environmental exposure to hazardous chemicals by handling any waste properly.

If your monthly generation rate of hazardous waste is a quantity less than ½ drum (or less than 220 pounds, or less than 27 gallons), and you accumulate no more than 1 drum on site at any one time, you are considered by regulations a small quantity generator (SQG) in Maine. Abiding by Maine's hazardous waste management rules also satisfies compliance with Federal hazardous waste management rules.

## **General Requirements:**

All waste generators must, at a minimum:

- Accurately characterize each facility waste as hazardous or non-hazardous.
- Maintain an inventory documenting the facility's monthly hazardous waste generation rate and the amount of hazardous waste stored on site.
- Manage hazardous waste in compliance with applicable on and off site Maine regulations.

## **Management Requirements for Small Quantity Generators:**

1. Determine which of your wastes are hazardous.
2. Store hazardous waste in containers of 55-gallon size or less.
3. Label each container as "Hazardous Waste" and include the date waste is first deposited, and when it becomes full.
4. Using a Maine-licensed hazardous waste transporter, and hazardous waste manifest form, ship each container off site within 180 days of filling.
5. Send waste to a licensed, authorized hazardous waste facility.

## **For additional information, see publications:**

DEP Issue Profile- Small Quantity Generators (November 20, 1995)

Handbook for Hazardous Waste Generators, State of Maine, Department of Environmental Protection. (available from DEP)

Maine's Hazardous Waste Management Rules, (available from DEP staff or on DEP web site.)